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## The Construction Observer vs. The CSO Observer

As a means of providing information on projects like the North Washington Streetscape (see above) in addition to those regarding many CSO projects, the title and format of this newsletter has been changed. It is hoped that bringing information and updates on a variety of City of Lansing projects is most interesting and important to the readers of the new *Construction Observer*.

## Breaking Ground on the North Washington Streetscape

The groundbreaking on this exciting project took place on Monday, June 18. The project will reopen the 200 and 300 blocks of North Washington Square to vehicular traffic. New streetscape elements will include decorative brick sidewalk, tree planters, benches, and landscaped rain gardens. The completion date is scheduled for November 2007. Construction updates on this project will be provided in this, and forthcoming issues of *The Construction Observer*.

## Some "Folks" Can't Wait to Move In

As indicated in the construction update for the "Michigan Avenue Streetscape" Project (see story on page 5), the construction to install the new rain gardens is progressing nicely and is on schedule. However, as indicated in the photograph to the left, some local fauna can't wait to move in. This frog was spotted in the rain garden currently under construction in front of Clara's Restaurant. If this is any indication, the rain gardens will make a suitable habitat for amphibian species in addition to the many plant species slated for inclusion.



*Home Sweet Home-To-Be!*



Access to all downtown and Michigan Avenue businesses is being maintained throughout construction, so please patronize all businesses in this corridor!

## CSO Project Construction Updates

### Downtown / Kalamazoo and Seymour Streets

Work on the Lansing Board of Water & Light's steam duct replacement is progressing, and the removal of the old steam lines and steam utility vaults in Kalamazoo Street has largely been completed. In addition, the new steam duct lines have been installed in the section of Kalamazoo Street between Grand Avenue and Washington Avenue.

In an effort to reduce subsurface groundwater beneath Kalamazoo Street and Grand Avenue, several dewatering wells will be installed in these streets. This is necessary to allow the jack & bore installation of the sanitary sewer mains in Kalamazoo Street to resume. Following completion of the jack & bore of the sanitary sewer in Kalamazoo Street, the same operation will take place in Grand Avenue, north and south of Kalamazoo Street.

Based in part on the dewatering in Kalamazoo Street, work on Seymour Street is now slated to begin in mid to late July. Once work gets underway there, Seymour Street will be fully closed to through traffic from Shiawassee Street to Ottawa Street.

Access to all Washington Square and Kalamazoo Street businesses is being maintained throughout construction, so please be sure to **patronize all businesses in this corridor**.

### 023 – Michigan Avenue and Side Streets

Underground utility work has been completed in Eureka Street and in North and South Hosmer Street. Road building activities have commenced on all these streets. Paving of these streets should occur late week in the week of June 25.

Water service laterals are currently being installed in Hill Street, and road-building activities should commence there shortly. Regarding Prospect Street, the water main in between Hill Street and Hosmer Street has been installed, and road-building activities should also commence there shortly.

The pavement in Bingham Street between Eureka Street and Michigan Avenue will be broken up on Friday, June 22, with sewer construction to commence the week of June 25. Construction will last into August. Bingham Street will be closed to through traffic, but **access to all businesses will be maintained**.

On Larch Street north of Michigan Avenue, construction has shifted to the east side of the street, with traffic shifting to the west side. Construction has started

on the new 24-inch water main. Construction will continue through late July. One lane of through traffic and a left turn lane at Michigan Avenue will be maintained on Larch Street. **Access to local businesses will be maintained at all times.**

In “Dumpster Alley” (the alley-way between Allegan Street and Washtenaw, west of Washington Square), the dumpster pad should be installed on June 21. Paving of the alley should occur in early to mid July.



*Pennsylvania Street Construction*

### **020 – Shiawassee and Pennsylvania Street Area**

Construction continues on Shiawassee Street between Larch Street and Pennsylvania Avenue. The underground utility work is nearing completion for the south side of the street. Road building will commence on the south side during the week of June 25. Westbound traffic on Shiawassee Street is being maintained, while Shiawassee Street’s eastbound traffic is being detoured to Saginaw Street. In mid to late July, traffic will be shifted to the south side of Shiawassee Street where two-way traffic will be maintained while construction occurs on the north side.

Regarding Haag Court, the storm sewer has been constructed, and construction on the new water main should be completed there in about two weeks. The Lansing Board of Water & Light will commence work to move the electric utility poles. This effort is roughly a four-week process. It requires the cable TV company, the telephone company, and telecommunication companies to also transfer their lines from these utility poles. Following this activity, sanitary sewer construction can begin.



*Pennsylvania Street Construction*

The water main on Pennsylvania Avenue between Michigan Avenue and Shiawassee Street has been completed. Work will begin on storm sewer “stubs” to serve the side streets and water service laterals on the west side of the street. By mid to late July, construction will finish on the west side of Pennsylvania Avenue and will be shifting to the east side of the street. In both phases, two-way traffic will be maintained at all times.

### **013 Northwest – Turner and Carrier Street Area**

Raw and service water work on the south part of the horseshoe area on Carrier Street is complete. Water main and sanitary sewer siphon work from the west-end of Carrier Street across to the Terminal Road cul-de-sac is complete. Water service laterals on Turner Street and Carrier Street are complete. Televising and cleaning of the sanitary sewer in Turner Street is in progress. Work to install the additional (deep) sanitary sewer in Turner Street is scheduled to start within the next two weeks. During deep sewer work, the road will be closed to through

*Oakland Avenue Construction*

traffic.

### **018 Southeast – Oakland Avenue/Pennsylvania Avenue Area**

Installation of the underground utilities on Case Street and Porter Street up to Ballard Street is complete, and road building on Case Street is underway. The installation of the sanitary sewer main in Ballard Street is complete, and work has continued on this installation by turning the corner and moving out onto Oakland Avenue with sanitary sewer main. All sewer lining activities to reinforce existing sewer utilities in Oakland Avenue have been completed. In addition, the new water main has been installed in section of Oakland Avenue.

In the next couple of weeks, the roadway on Case Street will be paved, sanitary sewer service laterals will be installed on Ballard Street, and installation of new sanitary main on Oakland Avenue will continue.

Due to construction, Pennsylvania Avenue is now down to one lane of northbound traffic and one lane of southbound traffic. In addition, the closure of Oakland Avenue continues as planned. This major westbound roadway is expected to remain closed to through traffic until mid-November. Westbound traffic on Oakland Avenue will be detoured northwest (right) onto Grand River Avenue and then south (left) onto Cedar Street to return to Oakland Avenue. Motorists may encounter delays and are advised to seek alternate routes whenever possible.

*Oakland Avenue Construction*

Construction on some streets associated with this project (including Cleveland Street, Farrand Street, Johnson Street, and May Street), may be moved up from the 2008 construction season to the 2007 season if construction continues to progress as well as it has to date.

### **CSO-013 West Project - Gier Neighborhood**

The base and level road paving on Filley Street has been completed, and restoration of the parkway area adjacent to the roadway is underway. Regarding work on Jackson Street, installation of the new water main and the associated service laterals is complete. In addition, construction of new curb and replacement of sidewalk on Jackson Street is underway in the section of Jackson Street between Turner Street and Creston Avenue. Regarding Harris Street, installation of the new water main is complete.

In the next couple of weeks, the concrete work will be completed (curb installation, etc.,) on Jackson Street as well as installation of sanitary sewer in Gier Park. In addition, work will commence on construction of new sanitary sewer on Creston Avenue and water service laterals on Harris Street. This





This is YOUR newsletter!  
Any comments or suggestions  
are welcomed and encouraged!

If you have any comments or  
suggestions, please send them  
to Alec Malvetis, Assistant City  
Engineer/CSO Project Manager  
at [amalveti@ci.lansing.mi.us](mailto:amalveti@ci.lansing.mi.us).

Please feel free to forward the  
newsletter to others who may  
be interested.

project is progressing satisfactorily as per the approved schedule.

## Other Notable Construction Project Updates

### The Michigan Avenue “Streetscape”

Rain garden construction continues on the north side of the 600, 700, and 900 blocks of East Michigan Avenue. In the 600 block, the fence and the grates are to be installed within the next two weeks. Once installed, this block can be reopened for parking. The placement of the rain garden soil and plantings will follow.

In the 700 block, the sidewalk is being installed adjacent to the rain gardens. In the 900 block, rain gardens are being excavated and constructed. Work will not be allowed to begin in the 800 block until the fence and grates are installed in the 600 block. Two-way traffic will be maintained at all times.

Construction has slowed in front of the Lansing Center as the final details for a snow melt system are being determined. Pedestrian traffic has been rerouted to the south side of Michigan Avenue. Two-way traffic will be maintained at all times.

During the past couple of weeks, work has progressed in the 100 block east of Michigan Avenue while the Lansing Board of Water & Light has been constructing a steam vault in the 100 block west. With the steam vault work finishing on or about June 22, work will return to the 100 block west. It will take approximately four weeks of construction to complete these two blocks. Then construction can start on the traffic circle/roundabout at the intersection Michigan and Washington.

### North Washington “Streetscape”

Construction started this week on the North Washington Streetscape. The first step in the project is removing the old pedestrian mall. This should take several weeks. When the removals are complete, work will begin on the sanitary sewer at the Shiawassee Street (north end of the project). When that occurs, eastbound Shiawassee Street will be detoured at Capitol Avenue. Westbound Shiawassee Street will be maintained.

Starting on Monday, June 25, the Lansing Board of Water & Light will start replacing the steam duct utility line in the 200 block of N. Washington Avenue. This will require closing the north half of Ottawa Street at Washington. Two lanes of westbound traffic will then be maintained. There will be times when construction practices mandate the closure of an additional lane. We will try to minimize these occurrences and schedule them during non-peak traffic hours.

**This is a significant legacy in infrastructure improvements and water quality protection we are giving future generations, and we should be proud!**